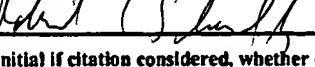


| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b><br><i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>   |     |  | Docket Number (Optional)<br>00380364AA |                                    | Application Number<br>09/738,981 |          |                                     |    |
|--|-----|--|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|----|
|  |     |  | Applicant(s)<br>Yoshikazu Kobayashi    |                                    | Filing Date<br>12-20-00          |          | Group Art Unit<br>2643              |    |
| <b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>   |     |  |  |                                    |                                  |          |                                     |    |
| EXAMINER INITIAL   | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER  | DATE                                   | NAME                               | CLASS                            | SUBCLASS |                                     |    |
| FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE   |     |  |  |                                    |                                  |          |                                     |    |
| <b>RECEIVED</b>  |     |  |  |                                    |                                  |          |                                     |    |
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| <b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>  |     |  |  |                                    |                                  |          |                                     |    |
|  | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER  | DATE                                   | COUNTRY                            | CLASS                            | SUBCLASS | Translation                         |    |
|  |     |  |  |                                    |                                  |          | YES                                 | NO |
| lcs  | 1   | 10-13471   | 1-16-98                                | Japan                              |                                  | abstract | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |    |
| lcs  | 2   | 11-284667  | 10-15-99                               | Japan                              |                                  | abstract | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |    |
| lcs  | 3   | 11-122285  | 4-30-99                                | Japan                              |                                  | abstract | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |    |
| <b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b> <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>   |     |  |  |                                    |                                  |          |                                     |    |
| lcs  | 1.  | Japanese Office Action dated March 31, 2004 with English translation of pertinent portions |  |                                    |                                  |          |                                     |    |
| <b>EXAMINER</b><br>   |     |  |  | <b>DATE CONSIDERED</b><br>12-20-04 |                                  |          |                                     |    |
| <b>EXAMINER:</b> Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |     |  |  |                                    |                                  |          |                                     |    |